(d) whether Government would make an assessment about the-justification of incurring this large expenditure which seems to have been motivated by the campaign blitz of global information superpowers?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY **AFFAIRS AND** MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No estimate has been made by the Government of India in this regard. However, the various Ministries/Departments concerned in the Government of India have been authorized to incur expenditure upto 3% of the budget allocated to meet the Y2K threat. The Ministry of Information Technology, with the approval of the competent authority earmarked an amount of Rs. 10.4 crores to be spent on media campaign.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up a software development centre in A.P.

814. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Singapore has evinced keen interest in setting up a software development centre in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely investments to be made by Singapore in this regard in this country?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The confirmed proposals are still awaited.